

REMARKS

This Amendment supplements the response submitted December 8, 2009 in reply to the non-final Office Action mailed on September 8, 2009. No fee is due in connection with this Amendment. The Director is authorized to charge any fees that may be required, or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-1818. If such a withdrawal is made, please indicate the Attorney Docket No. 3712161-88 on the account statement.

Claims 13-29, 31-33, 35-41 and 44-52 are pending in this application. Claims 1-12, 30, 34 and 42-43 were previously canceled. In the Office Action, Claims 13-29, 31-33, 35-41 and 44-52 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103. In response, Claims 13, 15-17 and 51 have been amended, and Claim 53 has been added. The amendments do not add new matter. In view of the amendments and/or for the reasons set forth below, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections should be withdrawn and the application now passed to allowance.

Applicants have amended independent Claim 13 to remove the phrase “the polymer mixture in the form of a thermoplastic melt is prepared by a means selected from the group consisting of a double-screw extruder, a single-screw extruder with mixing section, a Buss-Ko kneader and combinations thereof.” Applicants do not believe this phrase is necessary for patentability.

As discussed in the response submitted December 8, 2009, independent Claim 13 recites, in part, a polymer mixture consisting of at least one synthetic first polymer P(i) and at least one second polymer P(j). Accordingly, as detailed in the response submitted December 8, 2009, Applicants respectfully submit that *Jialanella* and *Baker-Hughes* fail to disclose or suggest a polymer mixture consisting of at least one synthetic first polymer P(i) and at least one second polymer P(j) as required by independent Claim 13. *Jialanella* and *Baker-Hughes* also fail to disclose or suggest a polymer mixture comprising a second polymer P(j) made up of the same monomer units as the sequences A of P(i) having a degree of polymerisation $DP(P(j))$ of P(j) of $20 < DP(P(j)) < 500$, a polydispersity $< 30 P(j)$ and a degree of branching $< 5 \times 10^{-2}$ as required by independent Claim 13.

Claims 15-17 and 51 have been amended to correct informalities. Applicants further note that Claim 53 has been newly added. No new matter has been added thereby. Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 53 should be allowed.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified patent application and earnestly solicit an early allowance of same. In the event there remains any impediment to allowance of the claims which could be clarified in a telephonic interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to initiate such an interview with the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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